



Adventure in every step

Hike Nova Scotia Annual Report 2011-2012

The following progress was made on Hike NS's strategic directions from April 2011 to March 2012.

Promotion, Advocacy and Leadership

- Provided input on eight consultations including: an NS Trails Strategy; 12% by 2015 goal for protected areas in NS; Active Canada 20/20: A Physical Activity Strategy and Change Agenda for Canada; National Trails Strategy; NS Dept. of Health & Wellness strategic planning process; NS Natural Resources Strategy; NS Childhood Obesity Prevention Strategy; Our HRM Alliance concerning greenbelting and containing sprawl in HRM
- Provided letters of support or signed positions statements for: designating Five Bridge Lakes as a Wilderness Protected Area; a strong Natural Resources Strategy; the Stepping Up Declaration, HRM's Physical Activity strategy; the McIntosh Run Watershed Association's request for land access for a trail; an Outdoor Network in NS



Hike NS attended the NS Trails Stakeholders Gathering hosted by the NS Dept. of Health and Wellness in fall 2011.

Public Information, Awareness and Education



This is the youth badge and Girl Guide "patch" for the Hiker Distance Award Challenge.

- 290 people attended 13 events in the Fall Guided Hikes series
- 583 people attended 23 events in the Winter Guided Snowshoe Hikes series
- 75 people registered for the first year of the Hiker Distance Award Challenge; 10 earned distance pins
- Four Girl Guide units earned 78 patches as part of the youth Hiker Distance Award Challenge
- Promoted the Hiker Distance Award Challenge as part of Active Transportation Month in June
- Piloted the Safe Hiker course for two Girl Guide groups (23 people)
- Promoted Leave No Trace Principles during fall and winter hikes and within Safe Hiker

Support the Expansion of Trail Infrastructure



This is the mainland route of the International Appalachian Trail through Nova Scotia.

International Appalachian Trail – Nova Scotia (IAT NS):

- Hosted the Annual IAT Council Meeting in Nova Scotia and attended its AGM in Quebec
- Hosted three through hikers
- Created communications pieces including videos of the route, information for municipalities and an agreement for trail groups along the IAT
- Met with the Pomquet Development Society and the NS Dept. of Natural Resources on possible route alteration in Antigonish; met with the NS Dept. of Tourism to discuss possible funding

Partnership Development and Collaboration

- TAO (The Adventure Outfitters in Halifax) offered gift certificates to those who earn Hiker Distance Award pins
- Partnered with 24 organizations on the Fall and Winter Guided Hikes
- Partnered with eight groups on five events: the Cabot Shores hiking themed two-day weekend; Active Transportation Month; McIntosh Run Community Trail hike; TAO's Hiking Trails of Nova Scotia presentation by Michael Haynes; MEC Snow Fest
- Created a list of 25 recreation departments, businesses or other organizations that lend, rent or sell snowshoes in Nova Scotia



Participants of the Cape George Fall Guided Hike enjoy the views.



Participants try out snowshoes in Lunenburg County during a Winter Guided Snowshoe Hike.

Organizational Development

- With 141 memberships, including multiple people represented by families and groups, Hike NS represents over 300 people
- Hosted the first NS Hiking & Snowshoeing Summit at Keji with over 65 in attendance
- Attended six conferences or special events
- Developed a marketing plan for 2012-13
- Developed a new board member orientation
- Created two new board policies: Conflict of Interest and Role of the Board of Directors Policy
- Developed six new board member job descriptions

**Hike NS thanks the Nova Scotia
Department of Health & Wellness for its support.**